

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant (s) : Michael P. Whitman et al.  
Serial No. : 10/785,672  
Filed : February 23, 2004  
For : SURGICAL CUTTING AND STAPLING DEVICE  
Group Art Unit : 3721  
Examiner : Gloria R. Weeks  
Confirmation No. : 2683

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the Office electronic filing system on **March 19, 2008**

Signature: /Loretta E. Charles/  
Loretta E. Charles

**RCE TRANSMITTAL AND**  
**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER CFR 1.136(a)**

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September 19, 2007, transmitted herewith is Request for Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and a Rule 1.116 Amendment, for filing in the above-identified application.

Applicants hereby request a three-month extension of time. The extended period of time expires on March 19, 2008. Please charge the **\$525.00** small entity fee to the account of Kenyon & Kenyon LLP, Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge the **\$405.00** RCE fee, and any other fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP Deposit Account No. **11-0600**.

Respectfully Submitted

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: March 19, 2008

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